AVENTIS US PAT DEPT APR. 14. 2005 11:28AM NO. 4374 P. 1 TO: US CENTRALIZED USPTO PTO/SB/21 (09-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of Information unless it displays a valid OMB control number Application Number 10/736.801 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date December 16, 2003 FORM First Named Inventor Bert KLEBL et al. RETUR Art Unit 1632 Examiner Name (to be used for all correspondence after Initial filling) J. Hama Attomby Docket Number Total Number of Pages in This Submission DEAV2002/0089 US NP **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to TC Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Appeal Communication to Board Fee Attached Licensing-related Papers of Appeals and Interferences V Appeal Communication to TC Amendment/Reply Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a After Final Provisional Application Proprietary Information Power of Altorney, Revocation Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Address Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify Extension of Time Request Terminal Disclaimer below): Express Abandonment Request Request for Refund Information Disclosure Statement CD, Number of CD(s)_ Landscape Table on CD Certified Copy of Priority Remarks Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name sanofi-aventis

Reg. No.

34,647

Signature

Date

Printed name

Karen I. Krupen

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce. P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Klebl et al.

Examiner:

J. HAMA

CENTRAL RAM CENTER

Application No.: 10/736,801

Art Unit;

1632

APR 1 4 2005

Filed:

December 16, 2003

TELEFAX CERTIFICATE

Title:

METHOD FOR GENERATING A

GENETICALLY MODIFIED

ORGANISM

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile 703-872-9306 to the Commissioner for Parents, Alexandria, VA 22313, on 14.201

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of February 24, 2005, the time to respond to which has been extended one month to April 24, 2005, the Applicants respond to the Restriction Requirement by provisionally electing to prosecute Group I, claims 1-21, directed to a method of a generating a genetically modified organism for drug screening comprising the steps of, inter alia, analyzing the modified gene expression (i.e., mRNA) pattern and identifying compensatingly differentially regulated genes. They respectfully disagree, however, that the restriction requirement dividing groups I and II is improper, and ask that the Examiner reconsider it.

The Examiner argues that Inventions I (the mRNA expression method) and II (the protein expression method) are unrelated because a method for generating a genetically modified organism for drug screening comprising a step for measuring mRNA expression is materially and methodically different from the same method wherein protein expression measured. The Examiner further states that Invention I does not depend on Invention II to function and vice versa.

The Examiner's restriction requirement ignores the fact that when protein expression analysis is measured, it is accompanied by mRNA expression analysis because mRNA